

Naples 4 Nov 81

Dear Mom & Dad,

I've been coming out to the ship each morning to do some work, then meeting Vickie in the afternoon. We generally go out to Carney Park for a jog and later eat either at the hotel or at a restaurant. Last night we started with cold marinated vegetables including mushrooms (in-season now), zucchini, peppers, etc. Then we had ravioli in a cheese sauce with bits of ham sprinkled over it and finally a thick fish steak cooked in butter & olive oil. Dessert was a rich zuppa inglese (cake although literally "English soup") for me and ice cream for Vickie.

We enjoyed your recent letters on mothers-in-law and other subjects. Also got Mary's letter and hope her enjoyable trip will lead to more travel (maybe to Italy in the Spring?)

Our staff doesn't go out to sea until Dec 4 - a very nice break! I'm to attend a conference in Toulon, France 17-19 Nov onboard the Sixthflt flagship which will be on a port visit there. We're planning to drive and take some time off to spend Thanksgiving in France.

We're returning to the U.S. next summer and I'm looking forward to it! Possibly will visit you in August. Plan to watch me run the Boston Marathon in April 83 then we will go for a drive in New England.

Please don't send any presents - the package mail is unreliable. No cookies have arrived yet. They must be sent airmail otherwise it takes weeks.

Love, Jim & Vickie